

PROCLAMATION 4243

Fire Prevention Week, 1973

September 14, 1973*By the President of the United States of America*

A Proclamation

Scarcely a day passes that we do not read of a tragic fire which has destroyed life or property somewhere in our land. Each year more than 12,000 lives are lost from fires in America and an additional 300,000 people suffer serious injury. Fires also cause a staggering loss in terms of property damage. Each year the cost in property destroyed by fires in this country is more than \$3 billion while another \$8 billion is spent on additional fire costs.

While this needless waste cannot be halted completely, we know that active fire prevention can do much to reduce these terrible misfortunes. Two years ago, I appointed a National Commission on Fire Prevention and Control which has since reported its findings concerning our Nation's fire problem. The Commission's strong emphasis on fire prevention is persuasive and sensible. It encourages us to place a greater priority on the work of preventing fires before they start rather than simply working to put them out after they begin.

Accidents are often acts beyond our control, but careless accidents can be prevented. Every American must recognize his or her responsibility to make fire prevention an effective national commitment.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RICHARD NIXON, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate the week beginning October 7, 1973, as Fire Prevention Week.

I urge all our citizens to involve themselves personally in fire prevention activities in their own communities, working with local fire departments and local governments as well as with the National Fire Protection Association. I also request all Federal agencies, in cooperation with the Federal Fire Council, to conduct effective year-round fire prevention programs in order to help reduce the terrible loss of life and property from fires.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this fourteenth day of September, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred

seventy-three, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred ninety-eighth.



PROCLAMATION 4244

Child Health Day, 1973

By the President of the United States of America

September 17, 1973

A Proclamation

There are few things in life more delightful than the sight of healthy children—enjoying their youth and looking forward to a long and fulfilling life. One of our most important national responsibilities is the assurance of full and healthy development for the children of America.

Parents, of course, have the primary responsibility for the health of their children and the home is the greatest single influence on child development. But the responsibility for child health is also shared by a wide range of the institutions which help meet children's needs. In a sense, almost everything we do as a people to foster better social, economic and environmental conditions can have an impact for good on the health of the American child.

Each year since 1928, we have set aside one day as Child Health Day to recognize the enormity of our individual and national responsibility and to reaffirm our commitment to child health.

By joint resolution of May 18, 1928, as amended (36 U.S.C. 143),
the Congress requested the President to issue annually a proclamation
declaring the first Monday in October as Child Health Day.

^{45 Stat. 617;}
^{73 Stat. 627.}

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RICHARD NIXON, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim Monday, October 1, 1973, as Child Health Day. I invite all citizens, agencies and organizations concerned with child health to join in such activities as will help alert all Americans to the vital importance of improving child health.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this seventeenth day of September, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-three, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred ninety-eighth.

